OVW meeting

Online and digital officer (Justin) - presentation

Lyn Cadwallader was challenged as to why the meeting was online: report put to national committee in March, seems sensible to run winter meetings virtual to save travel in bad weather and at night. Summer – face to face – April/July meetings. Winter – virtual. Some area committee members wanted face to face all the time. Operational impact of hybrid meetings assessed. This considered whole operational approach. 3 online, one face-to-face per year, across all areas. 64 area committee meetings to be covered by development officers at OVW. Travel and IT responsibilities to cover at each venue. In terms of hybrid – certain officers would have to be at the venue. Health and wellbeing of staff to be considered. NEC decided on 2 online, 2 face-to-face. At £4k saving and a large number of hours of travel, means losing 160 hours advice – online also allow a more diverse range of speakers.

Interim chair responded – understands that Lyn does a lot and doesn’t doubt the passion for the role. This is a democratic organisation. As the NEC rep – all area committee meetings from autumn on would be remote. June NEC – issue raised by herself and another rep, not constructive. No consultation made regarding decision. Suggested if hybrid can be facilitated, they should be allowed to do so. Sept NEC then gave finance rationale which had not been seen previously. Important to reflect facts that decision made in March, challenged at June, then more info given Sept. Lack of comms from NEC has not been good. Important we get what we want out of our Area Committee. May be a consideration to allow development officer be online, and the rest join either online or remotely.

Lyn responded, saying full robust debate at Sept NEC. 2 and 2.

Need 14 to be quorate – only 13 online. Rita to chair. 43 out of 45 in Newport and Monmouthshire are members of OVW.

Only one vote per council is allowed, even with clerk and two reps if they attend.

Agenda was rushed through, no-one took up chair or vice chair roles. Feedback on cancellation of conference, looks like due to no minister being secured for conference late in the day meant a late cancellation. 17 delegates signed up this time, previous pre-covid – 190/200. Maybe cost was prohibitive, particularly so close to Innovative Practice Conference.

8th Nov – joint event with SLCC, no-one available to attend from ATC.

Mentioned good practice – both Greener Abergavenny and also the Britain in Bloom success. Asked to send photo of awards, then poster for Greener Abergavenny event, to Maria.

Commercial waste and recycling changes to put responsibility onto all businesses and charities to have traceability of their waste and how it is disposed of.

Lastly, Review of Democratic Health in TCC sector. Consultation ends 27/11/2023:

